

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TAIPEI 03873 210336Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 /021 W
-----007702 210647Z /13
R 210332Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 7827

UNCLAS TAIPEI 03873

COMMERCE FOR ITA/BED/OIM/EA ROBERT KELLY
AND ITA/BED/OIM/SAD WANDA ALE

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, TW
SUBJECT: PROPOSED SOUTH CAROLINA IOGA TRADE MISSION

REF: A) TAIPEI 03689 B) USDOC 10013 C) TAIPEI 02579
- D) STATE 104488

1. IN REF C, THE EMBASSY INITIALLY WELCOMED THE PROPOSED SOUTH CAROLINA IOGA TRADE MISSION TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED TO VISIT OCTOBER 14-18. SUBSEQUENTLY, IN COMMENTING ON A SEPARATE PROPOSAL (REF B) THAT THE U.S. EXPORT DEVELOPMENT MISSION TO JAPAN ALSO TRAVEL TO TAIWAN. THE POST POINTED OUT ITS DISCOVERY THAT HOTEL ROOMS DURING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER ARE AT A PREMIUM, AND EVEN NOW IT IS VIRTUALLY IMPOSSIBLE TO MAKE RESERVATIONS FOR THAT PERIOD. FURTHER, THE DIRECT CONFLICT WITH THE EXPORT DEVELOPMENT MISSION'S PROPOSED TRIP TO TAIWAN DURING THE MID-OCTOBER PERIOD WOULD RENDER THE EMBASSY UNABLE TO PROGRAM THE SOUTH CAROLINA IOGA TRADE MISSION. IN THE EVENT THAT USDOC DECIDES THAT THE EXPORT DEVELOPMENT MISSIONS WILL NOT VISIT TAIWAN, SOUTH CAROLINA OFFICIALS SHOULD IMMEDIATELY RECONFIRM THEIR HOTEL RESERVATIONS IN TAIPEI.

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2. ACTION REQUESTED: COMMERCE IS REQUESTED TO EXPLAIN THE PRESENT SITUATION TO SOUTH CAROLINA STATE DEVELOPMENT BOARD OFFICER BOB WHITTAKER, AND IN VIEW OF THE CONFLICT WITH THE EXPORT DEVELOPMENT MISSION, AND THE DIFFICULTY IN SECURING HOTEL ROOMS, SUGGEST THAT THE SOUTH CAROLINA TRADE MISSION DATES BE EITHER BROUGHT FORWARD TO LATE SEPTEMBER, OR POSSIBLY MOVED BACK TO NOVEMBER (IF THIS

DOES NOT CONFLICT WITH THE PROPOSED BOSTON AND NEW JERSEY
IOGA TRADE MISSIONS). YET ANOTHER ALTERNATIVE, IF THE
DATES OF THE TRADE MISSION CANNOT BE CHANGED, WOULD BE
TO EXCLUDE TAIWAN FROM THEIR EAST ASIAN ITINERARY. THE
EMBASSY HOPES THAT A MUTUALLY SATISFACTORY ARRANGEMENT
CAN BE WORKED OUT WHICH WILL STILL PERMIT THE SOUTH
CAROLINA IOGA TRADE MISSION TO COME TO TAIWAN. UNGER

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